



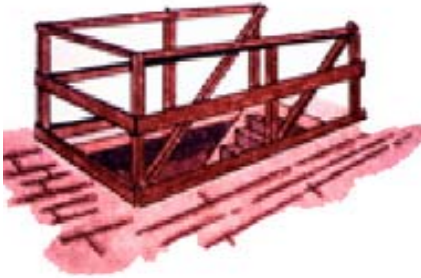
Massachusetts Division of Occupational Safety **FALL PROTECTION IN CONSTRUCTION**

A total of 441 workers fell to their death in construction accidents in 2004.

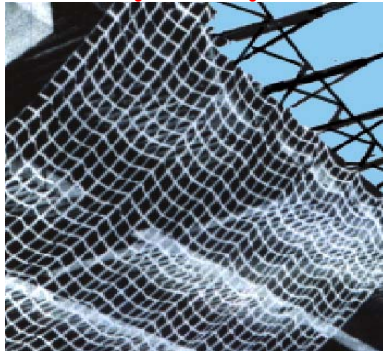
FALL PROTECTION - Subpart M

Employees exposed to an unprotected side or edge which is 6 feet or more above a lower level shall be protected from falling by and trained in the use of:

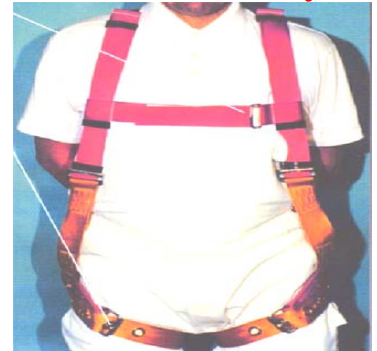
Guardrail System



Safety Net System



Personal Fall Arrest System



Residential Construction- Subpart M Section 1926.501(b)(13)

Residential construction requires fall protection. An employer is performing residential construction when the working environment, materials, methods and procedures are essentially the same as those used in building a typical single-family home or townhouse. Residential construction is characterized by:



Materials: Wood framing (not steel or concrete); wooden floor joists and roof structures.

Methods: Traditional wood frame construction techniques.

Employers engaged in certain residential construction activities may use alternative procedures routinely instead of conventional fall protection.. The alternative procedures are specific for each activity and can be found in OSHA STD 03-00-001 available at www.osha.gov. These activities are:

GROUP 1. Installation of floor joists, floor sheathing, and roof sheathing; erecting exterior walls; setting and bracing roof trusses and rafters.

GROUP 2. Working on concrete and block foundation walls and related formwork.

GROUP 3. This group consists of the following activities **when performed in attics and on roofs**: installing drywall, insulation, HVAC systems, electrical systems (including alarms, telephone lines, and cable TV), plumbing and carpentry.

GROUP 4. Roofing work (removal, repair, installation of weatherproofing roofing materials such as shingles, tile, tar paper).

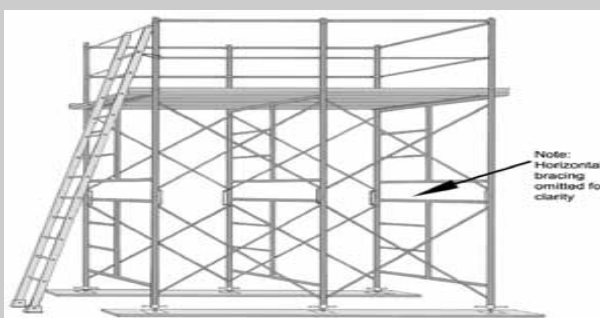
Scaffolds - Subpart L

Scaffold means any temporary elevated platform used for supporting employees and/or materials. This includes aerial lifts and scissor lifts.

Scaffolds-Employees on scaffolds that are more than 10 feet above a lower level must have fall protection.

Scissor Lifts- Employees on scissor lifts that are more than 10 feet above a lower level must have fall protection.

Aerial Lifts- A personal fall arrest system must be worn when working from an aerial lift.



Steel Erection- Subpart R

Walking/working surfaces – Employees on walking/working surfaces with an unprotected side or edge more than 15 feet above a lower level must be provided with fall protection.

Connectors - Connectors must be protected by conventional fall protection when working on a surface with an unprotected edge more than 2 stories or 30 feet above a lower level.

Controlled decking zones – Employees, including connectors, working in controlled decking zones must be protected from fall hazards. At heights of 15' to 30', connectors must be provided with a complete personal arrest system or other allowable fall protection, and wear the equipment necessary for tying off.



The Division of Occupational Safety offers a free consultation service designed to help employers recognize and control potential safety and health hazards at their worksites, improve their safety and health programs and assist in training employees.

Massachusetts Division of Occupational Safety 617-969-7177

www.mass.gov/dos/consult

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